

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Vol. 49, No. 17

www.laughlin.af.mil

May 4, 2001



the inside Scoop

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Flag flies 24 hours

The base flag will no longer be raised and lowered daily. Retreat and Reveille will still be sounded, and proper respect should be rendered to the colors during these times.

The flag will still be lowered during graduation ceremonies and other special occasions. All Team Laughlin members are invited to attend and participate in graduation/retreat ceremonies.

"Plan to arrive at 4:30 p.m. in your duty uniform in front of the wing headquarters building, and take part in an inspiring ceremony," said Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Enyeart, 47th Flying Training Wing command chief master sergeant. "You won't be disappointed!"

(See page 3 for related story on flag respect).



"Pilots take no special joy in walking. Pilots like flying."

—Neil Armstrong



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

I scream, you scream, we all scream for...

(From left) Laughlin family members, Tomas Colunga, 4, Velia Colunga, 4, and Hinata Cooper, 5, eat free ice cream cones at the Family Support Center's Ice Cream Social April 27 at the 47th Mission Support Squadron atrium area. Ice cream was served to celebrate National

Volunteer Appreciation Week and the work local volunteers have done. Col. Jack Egginton, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, presented the annual Volunteer Excellence Award to Heidi Poteat, 47th Comptroller Flight civilian pay technician, for her extensive volunteer work.

Base celebrates Earth-Arbor Day

By 1st Lt. Nathan Fannesbeck
47th Civil Engineer Squadron
Environmental Flight engineer

Laughlin members gathered at the base tennis courts April 25 to plant 49 Afghan Pine trees to beautify Laughlin in honor of Earth-Arbor Day.

Col. Jack Egginton, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, read the Arbor Day proclamation to kick off the ceremony. Children from the Child Development Center then assisted base leaders in a ceremonial tree planting and, afterward, volunteers planted the remaining 48 trees around the perimeter of the tennis courts.



After the ceremonial tree planting, Mark Peterson from the Texas Forest Service awarded Laughlin its seventh consecutive Tree City USA award. Communities receive Tree City USA designation from the National Arbor Day Foundation upon recommendation by state foresters. To become a Tree City USA, the base must have a tree ordinance, legal tree governing body, comprehensive urban forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance.

Directly following the award presentation, children and adults were treated to environmental games, educational displays and prize drawings.



Photo by Dave Niebergall

Col. Jack Egginton, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, delivers the Arbor Day proclamation April 25 at Laughlin's Earth-Arbor Day celebration at the base tennis courts. After the proclamation, base leaders and Child Development Center children planted a ceremonial tree. Base volunteers then planted 48 Afghan pines around the tennis courts.



By Lt. Col. Sharon Wright
47th Medical Operations Squadron
commander

National Nurses Week: a time worth celebrating

As a professional nurse, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my fellow nurses and all nursing personnel.

All across the United States, registered nurses are being saluted, and the 47th Medical Group will join the American Nurses Association in saluting them on National RN Recognition Day and throughout National Nurses Week.

National RN Recognition Day, celebrated Sunday, will kick off National Nurses Week, which ends May 12. May 12 is the birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder of nursing as a modern profession.

The purpose of National RN Recognition Day is to raise awareness of the value of nursing and to

help educate the public on the role nurses play in meeting the healthcare needs of the American people.

I am proud to recognize the dedication, commitment and tireless effort of the nearly 2.7 million registered nurses nationwide. Eleven Laughlin civilian and military nurses are among this rank of professionals and faithfully promote and maintain the health of base members.

In addition to promoting healthcare, these base nurses will also wear RN pins inscribed with "Celebrate Nursing" to draw attention to this observance worth celebrating.

National Nurses Week highlights the diverse ways registered nurses improve healthcare. From bedside

nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities, to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession meet the expanding healthcare needs of American society.

Interest for a day to honor the nation's nurses dates back to 1953, but it wasn't until February 1982 that the American Nurses Association board of directors acknowledged May 6 as "National Nurses Day." This action affirmed a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress designating May 6 as "National Recognition Day for Nurses," followed by President Ronald Reagan's signing a proclamation.

Then in 1990, the ANA ex-

panded the recognition of nurses to a weeklong celebration, declaring May 6-12, 1991, as National Nurses Week. In 1993, these dates were made permanent for observance in 1994 and all subsequent years. In 1996, the ANA initiated "National RN Recognition Day" May 6 to honor the nation's indispensable registered nurses for their tireless commitment seven days a week, 365 days a year.

And so, today we celebrate National Nurses Week. Please join me Sunday through May 12 in honoring the diverse ways this group of professionals – the largest in the healthcare profession – contribute to the health and welfare of the nation and our Air Force community.



By Chief Master Sgt. Nacho Reyes Jr.
47th Operations Support Squadron
Radar approach control chief controller

Bidding farewell to Air Force hard

My focus centers on what drew me from Mission, Texas, into the Air Force almost 27 years ago.

I chose to join our Air Force to be a part of the aviation world, travel "el mundo," acquire the G.I. Bill benefits and serve my country. I have met all my goals, and I am not disappointed.

I did not expect to stay longer than my four-year tour. However, good people around me supported and guided me to see opportunities. I started to enjoy my job and life, married my yel-

low rose of Tejas, and enjoyed a professional, challenging occupation, and a sense of pride in country. Because of these things, my family often reflects on many good memories, events and friends. We know how fortunate we've been.

The more I learned, the more I knew I could do more, and the only one holding me back was myself. I became a sponge, enjoying every new bit of knowledge to include history, aeronautics, culture and the world. I've enjoyed working as a counselor for high-risk high school students, sharing lessons learned, and teaching graduate courses for a local university.

The Air Force is not a rose garden, but neither was the backbreaking field work I remember as a child. One day, I heard laughter from a school

playground and wondered why I wasn't in school playing on a school ground, too. I was 9 years old, it was 6:30 a.m., and I was working! I told myself there had to be an easier way to make a living. Although I did hate my recruiter during basic training, I thanked him later for providing me an opportunity. I recall sending pictures and letters to my parents who would proudly answer back and say, "Mijo (son), you've done good... we can see you are working in an air-conditioned office." It is interesting what different interpretations people derive from the same picture.

I take moments every now and then to give

See 'Why I'm here,' page 3

Col. Jack Egginton
Commander

1st Lt. Dawnita Parkinson
Public affairs chief

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit
Editor

The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air

Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or reginald.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47 FTW motto

'Why I'm here,' from page 2

thanks and appreciate what I already have, instead of focusing on what I don't have. Experiences will prepare you for the rest of your life.

Our Air Force does demand a lot during deployments and asks compromises and sacrifices. I think these compromises are not any different than businesses in the private sector – though you may have to willingly put your life on the line.

I've been blessed to have a healthy, supportive gypsy family. You've got to be in sync with your family – have the support, love and respect. I remember getting married in Del Rio 20 years ago – an impromptu Valentine's Day wedding – and off we went to see the world. Many times I deployed with no notice, and my family understood. NBC once called to ask the missus if she knew where I was. "Yes, he's TDY in Germany," she said, only to find out I was in the Balkans supporting Kosovo operations. Strong family ties – to include my Air Force family – made the tough times easier.

Many active-duty military personnel will separate or retire. I understand at this stage the sadness others before me have felt as they leave.

It's tough to say goodbye to the best years of my life. However, as I choose to leave, I leave at the top an example to others, knowing that I made a difference in molding the best Air Force in the world. You can, too!

I move on, prepared with a wealth of knowledge, courage and experience.

Adios amigos!

Flag: Symbol of American freedom deserves respect

By Capt.

Angela O'Connell

*96th Flying Training Squadron
executive officer*

It's 4:59 p.m., and you've managed to take six steps away from the front door when suddenly, from off in the distance, you hear the beginnings of retreat. At first, you curse yourself for having forgotten it was almost 5 p.m. and for not making an effort to leave the office earlier. Then, you begin to think of tactics to avoid standing there.

The seemingly most viable option is to attempt the standing long jump from the sidewalk back to the safety of the building, or you could run the 500-yard dash to your vehicle – of course, hoping no one sees you.

I see these Olympic events daily at the sound of retreat on our installation.

In today's society, we are in a hurry to get everywhere and

once we get there, we are usually in a hurry to leave. In this case, retreat simply becomes another reason you are getting home late or sitting in traffic.

The retreat ceremony signals the end of the official duty day and serves as a ceremony for paying respect to the flag.

The flag has flown proudly over many battlefields and seen victory, as well as defeat – all of this in the name of freedom. Each time the national anthem plays, think of the men and women who have died for the ideals of our nation. We are part of a long tradition and should be proud to be part of such a rich heraldry.

Some people's lack of respect for the retreat ceremony stems from lack of knowledge of the proper procedures. This is perhaps where we have failed as a service in training our members properly, but it is a simple procedure and you can all be

professionals after reading this article.

At the first sound of retreat, face the flag, or the sound of the music if the flag is not visible, and stand at parade rest. When you see the flag being lowered or hear the national anthem or "To the Colors," come to attention and salute. Hold the salute until the music ends.

If you are a civilian, you should stand at attention and put your right hand over your heart. Vehicles should stop during the ceremony.

Stand tall, and be proud while we honor the many men and women of the past and present. Show that all of the hard work has not been forgotten and will carry on for generations to come.

Editor's note: Though the flag will now be flying 24 hours a day at Laughlin, proper respects should still be rendered during retreat.

Actionline

Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal

reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.



Col. Jack Egginton
47 FTW commander

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Question: How are articles selected for publication in the Border Eagle?

Answer: Articles you read in the Border Eagle come from two sources: internal and external.

Some internal articles are written by the base Public Affairs staff, while others are contributed by other people on base.

Laughlin's PA staff is rather small, so submissions from other base people are encouraged and needed.

All articles submitted to PA are edited for journalistic style, as well as for appropriateness. Each article then goes through a review process that includes three people: the editor, the NCOIC of the Internal Information section and the PA chief (the Community Relations chief in the PA

chief's absence).

External articles are taken from official military or Defense Department sources, such as Air Force Print News, Air Force Link, DefenseLINK or major command news services, such as the AETC News Service. The articles released through these sources go through a review process similar to the one at Laughlin.

Now showing on commander's access channel: Air Force Television News

The April 30 edition of Air Force Television News is set to air at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday on the Commander's Access Channel, channel 34. Stay tuned after Air Force TV News for several informative 47th Services Division commercials.

Air Force TV News is a biweekly production of Air Force News Service. It is distributed to more than 3,000 military and civilian outlets worldwide and is seen on more than 700 cable outlets nationwide. Viewers can comment on the program by sending e-mail to: aftvnews@afnews.af.mil.

The following is a summary of the April 30 edition of Air Force Television News:

■ McClellan AFB, Calif., formally turned over to the City of Sacramento. Economic

woes because of McClellan closure unfounded say business community.

■ Junior airmen having problems paying their bills

■ FBI uses Air Force Reserve base as antiterrorism staging point

■ Luke AFB, Ariz., mission works in concert with environmentalists

■ Air Force initiates Total Force Honor Guard

■ Air Force Recruiting unveils new recruiting office approach

■ Air Force team trains for military eco-challenge in Alaska

■ Profile of AEF Battlelab at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho

■ Air Force uses kits to turn dumb bombs into smart bombs

■ Snapshot of Air Force makeup

■ Latest Fisher House opens in Texas

Newsline

Sports physicals due yearly

Parents are encouraged to schedule their child's sports physical around his or her birthday month.

The child/teen's immunization record should be brought to the appointment. Physical examinations should be done annually and are good for one year.

If clearance to play sports is needed and your child has had a sports physical in the previous 11 months, call the Pediatric Clinic at 298-6475 to receive a clearance letter or for more information.

If your child has had any significant, new problems since his or her last examination, make an appointment for a physical.

Physical exams may be scheduled through the appointment desk at 298-3578.

Summer registration starts

Park University will hold registration for its summer session from Monday to May 25.

For more information, call Park University at 298-5593.

Military celebrates at mall

Armed Forces Day 2001 will be celebrated from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 19 at the Plaza Del Sol Mall in Del Rio. There will be display booths from various Laughlin organizations, mock cockpits, an enlistment ceremony, a military fashion show, military working dog demonstrations, Junior ROTC drill team demonstrations and more. 47th Security Forces Squadron vehicles and a Laughlin fire truck will be on display outside. Recruiters will be available to answer questions.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Benny St. John at 298-5441.

Cessation classes offered

A tobacco-cessation course is scheduled for May 15 at 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Health and Wellness Center conference room. Classes will be held every Tuesday after May 15 at the same times for five weeks.

For more information, call Tech Sgt. Ray Fernandez at 298-6463 or 298-6464.

Potluck gift exchange set

The Officers' Spouses' Club will host a "Make it, Bake it, Sew it, Grow it, or Buy it" gift exchange May 15 at 7 p.m. in the base chapel.

Names A-M should bring a main dish, salad, or dessert. Names N-Z should bring a dessert.

R.S.V.P. by May 11 to Angela O'Connell at 298-7081 or Jackie Oberdieck at 298-7201.



Please recycle this newspaper.



Bush makes choice for AF Secretary

President George W. Bush has announced his intention to nominate James G. Roche to serve as the next secretary of the Air Force.

Roche is currently corporate vice president and president of the Electric Sensors and Systems Sector of the Northrop Grumman Corporation. He has served with Northrop Grumman Corporation since 1984 in a variety of posts.

Before joining the private sector, Roche served as democratic staff director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services from 1983 to 1984 and served at the State Department as principal deputy director of the policy planning staff.

He was a senior professional staff member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence from 1979 to 1981 and served as assistant director of the office of net assessment in the office of the secretary of defense from 1975 to 1979.

Roche is a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, received an undergraduate degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology, a master's degree from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and a doctorate from Harvard Graduate School of Business.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

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Cinema

Dangerous driving is deadly practice

By Sharon Reeves

47th Flying Training Wing Safety

Safety and occupational health specialist

Motor vehicle mishaps continue to be the leading cause of death and serious injury. These aren't always accidents, however, because many motor vehicle mishaps are preventable.

Paying attention to the following reminders can help keep you from becoming another motor vehicle mishap statistic:

- The simple act of wearing a seat belt could keep you from being ejected or tossed around a car when involved in a mishap.

- Driving on Highway 90 or Highway 277 is a challenge at best. Don't stop on the shoulder or side of the road except in an emergency. "Texas passing" is a questionable practice that can deceive some motorists into thinking they have a safe distance to pass slower moving vehicles, when it may not be safe or even legal.

- Obey the posted speed limits. In the construction areas where the posted speed limit is 45 mph, it doesn't mean, "Go ahead and drive it at 55 or 60 mph."

- Don't follow too closely behind other vehicles. Use the two-second rule. You should be able to count off two seconds from the time the vehicle ahead of you passes a fixed object before your vehicle passes it.

- Your braking distance depends on reaction time. When driving at 50 mph, your stopping distance can vary from 113 feet to 198 feet. When travelling at 60 mph, the distance you travel before stopping is from 146 feet to 270 feet – much too far to travel in an emergency to avoid a collision.

- Watch out for large trucks and semis. Large trucks have many blind spots at the rear and alongside the truck.

- Don't ride alongside a truck. The driver may have to change lanes quickly (such as when a slower vehicle pulls out in front of him) and he may not see your vehicle. Also, keep in mind that it takes a big truck a much longer distance to stop than a small car or pickup truck.

In short, always drive defensively. Anticipate the other driver's moves and be prepared for the unexpected.

Seat belt use is mandatory at Laughlin. Please, buckle up.

Fraud, Waste and Abuse

Preventing Fraud, Waste and Abuse is everyone's job! If you know of or suspect FWA, call the FWA hotline at 298-4170.

Where are they now?

Name: 1st Lt. Christopher M. Credno
Class/date of graduation from Laughlin: Class 00-08
Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: C-5, Dover AFB, Del.
Mission of your current aircraft? Strategic airlift
What do you like most about your current aircraft? Its size, the different and interesting missions, and the places we go
What do you dislike most about your current aircraft? The maintenance and old age
What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? I learned that being a good pilot isn't easy. It takes a lot of hard work, mission preparation and studying.
What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? A T-37 formation. It was so much fun!
What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Always try your hardest, and no matter how tough things get, remember you have the best job in the world.



U.S. Air Force photo

Chapel Schedule

- | | |
|---|---|
| Catholic | Jewish |
| Saturday | Max Stool, call 775-4519 |
| -Mass, 5 p.m. | Protestant |
| Sunday | Sunday |
| -Mass, 9:30 a.m. | -General worship, 11 a.m. |
| -Confession by appointment | -Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. at the Religious Education Building |
| -Little Rock Scripture Study, 11 a.m. in Chapel Fellowship Hall | Monday |
| -CCD, 11 a.m., Religious Education Building | Student Wives' Fellowship, 7-9 p.m. Call 298-7365. |
| Thursday | Wednesday |
| -Choir, 6 p.m. | - Women's Bible Study, 12:30-2:15 p.m. at Chapel |
| Muslim | -Choir, 7 p.m. at Chapel |
| Dr. Mostafa Salama, call 768-9200 | |

For more information on Chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

Question of the week

How does your spouse contribute
to your military career?



"She supports my choices and my decisions and advises me when I need to make better decisions. I couldn't do it without her."

1st Lt. Sean Sullivan
84th Flying Training
Squadron instructor pilot



"She keeps me happy so I can concentrate on my family and job and she helps me forget that every day I wake up in Del Rio."

1st Lt. Chris Vasquez
87th Flying Training
Squadron instructor pilot



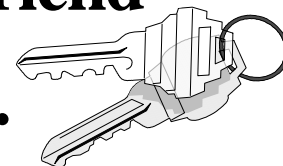
"She supports every decision I make and critiques me honestly."

**Staff Sgt.
Charles Jones**
47th Flying Training Wing
Information Manager

Think safety:

Take the keys.

Don't let a friend
drive drunk.



The *XLer*

Hometown: New Braunsfels

Family: Daughters, Donna and Carol; son, Paul; granddaughter, Irene, 5

Time at Laughlin: 17 years

Time in service: 26 years. I took a break to raise my family.

Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: I love Laughlin! I believe you should bloom where you are planted and make the most of each day wherever you might be.

Hobbies: Reading, walking and working in the yard

Bad habit: Reading a good book when I should be doing something else

Favorite beverage: Coke

Favorite food: Mexican and Chinese



Carolyn Hay
47th Flying Training Wing
historian



Photo by Bob Jensen

Champs!

Air Force Academy center Cadet Third Class Robin Kiska (far right) breaks through the Navy defense with Cadet Third Class Tim Grady (front left) and Cadet Fourth Class John Matchet (foreground left) supporting him. The Air Force Academy cadet rugby team beat both the Army's and the Navy's academy teams to win the Commandant's Trophy at the 18th Alamo City Fiesta Rugby Battle Saturday in San Antonio.

Intramural volleyball standings

Team	Win	Loss
86 FTS	5	0
84 FTS/85 FTS	5	1
CS/CONS/SVS	4	2
87 FTS	3	2
47 OSS	3	3
47 CES	2	4
47 MED GP	1	3
LCSAM	1	5
47 SFS	0	4



Photo by Tech. Sgt. John Lasky

Pass denied

Defensive tackle Richard Diehl of Springfield, Mo., attempts to deflect a pass from quarterback Ryan Blew of Edmund, Okla., during the annual spring Air Force Academy Blue and Silver game. The game offers young players a chance to catch the coach's eye and earn a starting position in the fall. The Blue team won this year's game, 30-7.